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The POULTRY and EGG SITUATION

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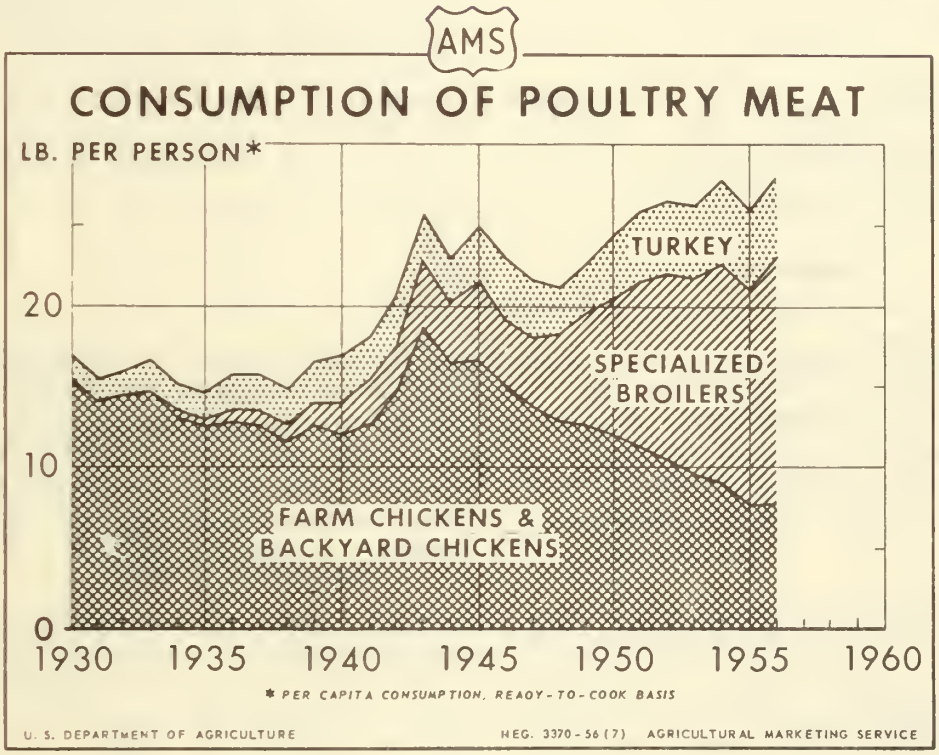

The increase in poultry meat consumption per person since 1948 has been mostly from broilers. This class of meat now supplies more than half of the annual consumption of poultry, having risen from an insignificant level in the early 1930's. Supplies of turkey are also increasing, but the number of farm chickens is declining on account of changes in the egg production enterprise.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION AT A GLANCE

Item	Unit	Month or date	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Month or date	Average 1945-54	1955	1956	Comments on current situation
EGGS										
Farm production	Mil. doz.	May	484.4	464.9	463.1	June	410.7	412.6	413.4	
Average number of layers on farms	Millions	May	321.2	293.6	293.8	June	304.1	282.7	284.3	
Rate of lay per layer	Eggs	May	18.1	19.0	18.9	June	16.2	17.5	17.4	On July 1, rate of lay was 56.1 percent, against 56.6 last year
Apparent disappearance, shell eggs per civilian	Eggs	Apr.	31.9	28.6	1/28.1	May	31.0	28.0	1/27.3	
Frozen egg production	Mil. lb.	Apr.	73.3	64.9	61.6	May	71.8	68.7	74.4	
Dried egg production	Mil. lb.	Apr.	8.8	2.9	2.9	May	8.9	2.9	3.3	10-year average influenced by war-time and post-war Government programs
Price received by farmers	Ct.per doz.	May	38.0	33.8	37.5	June	38.8	33.8	36.3	
Price received by farmers as a percentage of parity	Percent	May	92	81	89	June	92	80	85	
Retail price (AMS)	Ct.per doz.	Apr.	56.6	53.3	56.5	May	56.9	51.6	55.0	
Egg-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	10.1	9.0	10.4	June	10.3	9.2	10.0	
Stocks:										
Shell	Thous.cases	May 1	2,288	1,183	638	June 1	3,587	2,088	1,193	
Frozen	Mil. lb.	May 1	143.8	125.8	94.0	June 1	185.7	170.9	138.0	
Chicks hatched by commercial hatcheries	Millions	Apr.	306.0	273.5	297.8	May	237.2	223.8	253.8	Includes broiler hatchings which were 21 percent above last year
Chicks and young chickens on farms	Millions	May 1	393.4	273.8	279.8	June 1	498.1	329.3	333.1	Statistical Reports on this item now discontinued
Farm price of poultry ration	Dol.per cwt	May	3.80	3.74	3.62	June	3.80	3.69	3.63	Despite recent rises, still below like price for 1955
POULTRY										
Price received by farmers for chickens, live										
Broilers	Ct. per lb.	May	29.5	27.0	21.1	June	29.5	27.2	19.9	Broiler supplies will continue large; marketings of other chickens to increase seasonally
Farm chickens	Ct. per lb.	May	25.7	20.2	19.2	June	24.9	19.7	17.9	
All chickens	Ct. per lb.	May	27.5	25.6	20.7	June	27.1	25.7	19.5	
Price received by farmers for all chickens as a percentage of parity	Percent	May	98	88	72	June	98	89	68	
Retail price of broilers and fryers dressed (AMS)	Ct. per lb.	Apr.	50.6	57.1	47.3	May	50.1	52.8	47.5	
Price received by farmers for turkeys, live	Ct. per lb.	May	32.4	28.9	30.8	June	32.4	29.4	29.8	More recent prices show declines
Stocks:										
Poultry, excluding turkeys	Mil. lb.	May 1	159.1	56.9	83.4	June 1	84.0	47.1	78.4	
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	May 1	68.8	70.7	49.1	June 1	59.4	60.2	40.2	Low stocks were a price-sustaining factor through the spring
Broiler-feed price ratio 2/	Lb. feed	May	---	5.3	4.2	June	---	5.4	3.9	
Turkey-feed price ratio	Lb. feed	May	8.6	7.7	8.5	June	8.7	8.0	8.2	
Average weekly placement of chicks in 22 important States	Millions	May	---	22.6	22.8	June	---	27.0	27.5	

1/ Preliminary. 2/ This differs from the chicken-feed price ratio appearing in this table prior to PES-176.

THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Approved by the Outlook and Situation Board, July 12, 1956

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SUMMARY

Production of broilers and of turkeys in 1956 will be record large, exceeding 1955 by perhaps 20 and 15 percent. Egg production also is likely to set a new record, rising perhaps 2 percent or more above the 1955 high. Egg production to July 1 was less than 1 percent ahead of last year, but production in the rest of the year will reflect the year-to-year upward trend in fall rate of lay and the increased number of pullets following the larger replacement hatch this spring.

Egg prices have declined seasonally since the beginning of 1956, and except for a short period after mid-June, remained above a year earlier. In 1955, prices had definitely begun to turn seasonally upward by mid-June. The prospect is for 1956 egg prices to rise seasonally but the peak may be earlier and lower than the U. S. average of 47.1 cents per dozen received by farmers in December, 1955.

Broiler prices received by farmers since the beginning of 1956 have fluctuated within the narrow range of 19-22 cents per pound live, generally about 6 cents lower than a year earlier. The reduction reflects larger supplies. Marketings through August at least will continue about a fifth above last year. Even though feed prices on the DelMarVa Peninsula have risen as much as $10 per ton since the beginning of 1956, broiler chick placements continue large. One reason for this is the way in which production is financed; this has shifted much of the cash risk from farmers to others. The mid-June broiler price was 19.9 cents, compared with 21.1 cents a month earlier and 27.2 cents a year earlier.

Marketings of live heavy-breed turkeys are seasonally small. Farmers' prices are greatly influenced by the small stocks and high prices of frozen heavy turkeys. At 40 million pounds on June 1, U. S. stocks were the smallest for the date since 1949. Frozen heavy toms in New York and Chicago wholesaled at over 60 cents per pound. This situation will continue until the 1956 crop begins to yield larger supplies of heavy turkeys. Hens and lightweight turkeys, including those of heavy breeds slaughtered at immature weights, have recently been priced lower per pound at wholesale than heavy turkeys.

The turkey crop now growing includes fewer light-breed turkeys than last year, but more heavy-breed birds. The total crop will be a record, probably about 10 million more birds than 65.6 million raised in 1955. At 29.8 cents per pound in mid-June, U. S. average turkey prices (live) to farmers were very close to the 29.4 cents of a year earlier.

REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

Egg Prices Declined in June; Seasonal Recovery Expected

Prices received by farmers for eggs declined seasonally from the beginning of 1956 to mid-June. To that time farmers' average mid-month prices had generally been above a year earlier, and the mid-June price of 36.3 cents per dozen compared with 33.8 in mid-June 1955. After mid-June 1955, however, prices turned upward while this year they continued to decline. As a consequence, late in that month, and early in July, many quotations were below a year earlier. In New York City, for example, on June 29 mid-western extras were 39-40 per dozen, compared with 40-41½ cents in 1955.

Egg prices continued to decline in May and June despite the fact that supplies for consumption in May and probably June were smaller than in March and April. (See table 3.) In early July, however, the seasonal price rise apparently was under way. The declining price in June has been attributed to the mild weather which prevailed over much of the mid-west. Cool weather is favorable both for sustained egg production and for maintenance of egg quality. The price rise that began about the beginning of July may have been an indication that hot weather had finally reduced the quantity of grade A eggs reaching market.

Prospects are that the seasonal increase in egg prices will continue into the fall. The June 1 estimate of 333 million young chickens on farms was 1 percent more than a year earlier. The 280 million layers on farms July 1, 1956 were also 1 percent above a year earlier. These estimates suggest that the number of layers to be on hand later this year is likely to exceed a year earlier by only a small extent, particularly in view of the fact that more aged layers will have to be replaced this year than last.

Reports of hatchery production indicate a somewhat larger laying flock next fall than is suggested by the estimates of young chickens on farms. Hatchery output to May 1 (the latest date on which a pullet could be hatched and be in production by mid-September) was 7 percent more than in the same period last year.

On the basis of even the higher of the two estimates of laying flock replacement, the laying flock next fall will be somewhat larger than in 1955. Continuation is also likely for the trend toward higher rate of lay in the fall months, despite the fact that the July 1 rate per bird was lower this year than last. Although egg production will be up from last year, the increase is not likely to be large enough to prevent a seasonal increase in prices. However, the seasonal rise this fall will be less and the peak is likely to be reached earlier than in 1955, when the peak of farmers' prices was 47.1 cents in mid-December.

A regional breakdown of the United States laying flock (compared with last year) shows that the West North Central region was the only one which on June 1 had fewer layers than a year earlier (table 9). For "chicks and young chickens on farms June 1," the same region shows an increase in numbers sufficient to offset the reduction in layers. However, for this region, as well as for other regions, the changes from last year in numbers of chicks and young chickens June 1 are inconsistent with the changes from last year in hatchery output to June 1 of replacement-type chicks. This may be explained partly, but not completely, by inter-regional shipment of baby chicks.

Broilers: Record Production to Continue through Summer

Broiler prices varied in a narrow range around 20 cents per pound in most areas in June. At 19.9 cents per pound in mid-June, the U. S. average broiler price received by farmers was 7 cents below the June 1955 price of 27.2 cents per pound. Prices of California fryers rose about 2 to 3 cents during June, restoring the differential which usually prevails in that area compared with the rest of the United States. In the East, there was also a one or two cents per pound increase in broiler prices, in early July.

The price decline from last year reflects increased supplies. Broiler chick placements from which July marketings are being made were 18 percent larger than corresponding placements last year. Slaughter of young chickens, principally broilers, since the beginning of 1956 has been 30 percent above last year.

Because the number of broilers now growing is record large, probably 18 to 20 percent above last year at the same season, there is little prospect for any further price increase soon. However, prices for the remainder of the summer could hold about steady since demand usually increases seasonally at this time of year. Higher beef and pork prices also may strengthen demand for broilers. On the other hand, summertime supplies of other poultry meats will

probably exceed last year. Supplies of cockerels raised with egg-type pullets are probably up about in proportion to the 7 percent increase in hatchery production of egg-type chicks. Sales of hens will probably also exceed last year in view of the larger number of second-year layers in the present laying flock. Turkey slaughter in the remaining months of 1956 will exceed 1955.

While broiler chick placements and egg settings have declined slightly in recent weeks, the reduction is no more than would be expected on a seasonal basis.

Production of broilers is continuing at a record level even though broiler prices are much lower than last year, and feed prices have risen from their recent lows. The high production is a reflection of broiler financing methods and probably ample family labor in the areas where the production increases have been most pronounced.

The increases from last year in current broiler output are greater in the Southeastern States than in other specialized areas (tables 10 and 11). A likely factor in this is the fewer alternative employment opportunities and the greater surplus of family labor in those areas than in the ones, particularly in the Northeast and in California, where current placements show a smaller increase over last year.

Large Turkey Crop:
Increase in Heavies Exceeds
Decline in Light Breeds

The 1956 turkey crop will be a record, exceeding the 65.6 million turkeys raised in 1955 by perhaps 10 million or more. Poult hatchings from September 1, 1955, through July 1956 will be about one-sixth greater than the comparable number a year earlier. This is indicated on the basis of poults hatched through May, plus eggs in incubators in the United States on June 1 and weekly egg settings in 11 States since June 1. (Poults hatched after about September 1 do not become marketable until the following calendar year, hence hatchings after August 1955 are included in the 1956 turkey crop.) The previous record turkey crop was the 67.7 million birds of 1954.

The prospective crop contains more heavy-breed birds than last year, and fewer light-breed birds. However, there may not be much change from last year in the proportions of heavy and light turkeys marketed because the heavy-breed classification includes white-feathered birds which can be slaughtered at early ages when their weights are competitive with Beltsville and other small turkeys. So far in 1956, in 11 States about 20 percent of the hatchings of heavy-breed turkeys have been white-feathered. No comparable U. S. breakdown is available for 1955, but in Minnesota the 1955 hatchings of heavy breeds were 25 percent white-feathered, while so far this year they have been about 35 percent. In 1954-55, up to 14 percent of the heavy-breed birds blood tested under the National Turkey Improvement Plan were of white-or light-feathered breeds. Comparable figures are not yet available for 1955-56.

Virtually all poults hatched in late 1955, as well as some poults hatched early in 1956, are already slaughtered and eaten. Since the percentage increase over last year in hatchings of turkeys has been greater in recent months than in earlier ones, the percentage increase in marketings this fall probably will be greater than for the year as a whole.

This continued large output of poults late in the hatching season is partly a result of new methods in the production of turkey hatching eggs. Among the practices which are becoming increasingly common are the control, by the use of light, of the season in which the hens lay their eggs, and the maintenance of fertility in the eggs (a) by replacing toms during the laying season, (b) by conditioning the toms by exposure to light, and (c) the application of artificial insemination on a large scale. Artificial insemination has become more widely used to increase the percentage of fertile eggs.

Because day-old turkey poults are shipped readily for long distances, the record of turkey hatchings by important States is only a partial indication of where the changes in turkey production are taking place. Pending the August report on numbers of turkeys being raised by States, however, the extent of the changes from last year in the number of turkeys hatched in leading States is a guide to a judgment in this respect. Table 12 indicates important increases in Texas, California, and Minnesota.

Under the unusual market conditions existing in early July, with storage stocks practically exhausted and few new crop turkeys ready for market, live hens and toms in California were bringing farmers about equal prices per pound. For toms, this may induce earlier sales than would otherwise occur, with growers sacrificing final weight gains and peak finish in favor of participation in the unusual current prices. If this occurs on a large scale, such early sales will help to relieve the pressure of heavy supplies later.

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Table 1 .- Egg prices, selected dates, 1956, with comparisons

Item	1955				1956			
	May 16	June 15	July 15	Aug. 15	Apr. 16	May 15	June 15	July 10
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
U. S. average price received by farmers, per dozen	33.8	33.8	35.2	39.4	38.5	37.5	36.3	
Iowa prices received by farmers, per dozen 1/:								
Grade A Large	28-30	29-30	26-28	38-40	32-33	33-35	31-32	30-32
Grade A Medium	26-28	24-26	22-23	26-30	29-30	29-31	27-28	25-26
Current receipts	2/27-29	25-27	---	---	---	---	---	---
New York, wholesale prices								
Midwestern, mixed colors per dozen:								
Fancy heavy-weights	38-39	39-40½	37-38	47½-49½	42-43	42½-44	40½-42	41½-42
Extras 1, medium	35-35½	36-37	34½-35½	42-44	41-41½	39½-40½	35½-36	37½-38½
Nearby whites, per dozen:								
Extra fancy, heavy-weights	38-39½	42-43½	44½-46½	61-63½	42½-44	42½-44½	42½-45½	44-46
Medium	35-36	38-39½	35-35½	52-54	41½-42½	40½-41½	35½-36	39-39½
Small (pullets)	31½-32½	31-32	27½-28	31-32	---	31-32	28-29	25¾-26
Frozen egg, per pound 3/:								
Mixed whole egg	28-31	27½-30	27½-29½	28-30	32½-34	32-35	30½-34	5/31-33
Yolk 4/	51½-53	51-53	50-52	50-53	50-53	50½-53	49½-51	5/51-52
Albumen	18½-20½	19-21	19-21½	20¼-23	23-24½	23½-25	23-25	5/22-24
Chicago								
Wholesale price, per dozen:								
Mixed colors, extras, Large	34½-35	36-36½	33	46-47	39½-40	38½	38	37-38
Future contracts:								
September delivery (closing price)	41.70	41.55	35.25	38.25	43.95	44.40	40.15	37.50
San Francisco, wholesale price, per dozen:								
Grade A, Large	40½-41½	39½-40½	43½-44½	51½-52½	41½-42½	43-44	42-43	43-44
Grade A, Medium	39-39½	39-39½	41-41½	41-41½	39-39½	37-38	36-37	36-37

1/ "Mostly," except where otherwise stated.
2/ Complete price range; not "mostly."
3/ Carlots. Weekly price.
4/ Highest color quoted.
5/ Week ending July 6.

Table 2 -. Eggs: Weekly storage holdings and movement in 35 principal cities January-September, 1955 and 1956

Week ending 1/	Shell				Frozen			
	Holdings		Movement		Holdings		Movement 2/	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.
Jan. 7	165	72	19	-12	40.4	40.0	-2.1	-2.8
14	189	68	24	-4	38.7	37.3	-1.7	-2.8
21	194	73	5	5	38.0	34.6	-0.7	-2.7
28	186	207	-8	134	36.9	31.8	-1.1	-2.8
Feb. 4	178	255	-8	48	36.2	29.3	-.7	-2.5
11	165	265	-13	10	35.7	28.0	-.5	-1.3
18	152	258	-13	-7	36.0	26.7	.2	-1.2
25	159	247	7	-11	35.1	25.7	-.9	-1.1
Mar. 3	166	248	7	1	35.1	24.7	3/	-0.9
10	185	249	19	1	34.7	25.2	-.4	.5
17	222	240	37	-9	36.1	27.6	1.4	2.4
24	265	236	43	-4	38.6	29.7	2.4	2.1
31	334	229	69	-7	42.6	31.3	4.1	1.7
Apr. 7	426	252	92	23	47.1	35.7	4.4	4.4
14	543	295	117	43	51.6	39.2	4.6	3.5
21	689	369	146	74	56.5	42.8	4.8	3.5
28	877	461	188	92	61.2	46.9	4.7	4.1
May 5	1,076	556	199	95	67.0	50.9	5.9	4.0
12	1,256	644	180	88	73.0	55.6	6.0	4.6
19	1,430	737	174	93	79.0	60.0	6.0	4.4
26	1,568	854	138	117	83.6	65.2	4.7	5.3
June 2	1,664	967	96	113	88.0	71.4	4.4	6.2
9	1,725	1,049	61	82	92.7	75.9	4.7	4.5
16	1,775	1,116	50	67	97.1	79.0	4.4	3.1
23	1,780	1,152	5	36	100.0	83.6	2.9	4.5
30	1,783	1,182	3	30	103.5	87.8	3.5	4.2
July 7	1,782	1,176	-1	-6	105.2	89.9	1.8	2.1
14	1,769		-13		105.2		- 3/	
21	1,760		-9		106.4		1.2	
28	1,728		-32		107.1		.8	
Aug. 4	1,675		-53		106.8		-.4	
11	1,584		-91		106.7		-31	
18	1,477		-107		104.8		-1.9	
25	1,376		-101		102.7		-2.1	
Sept. 1	1,276		-100		100.2		-2.6	
8	1,208		-68		98.2		-1.9	
15	1,086		-122		94.6		-3.7	
22	985		-101		91.3		-3.2	
29	919		-66		87.2		-4.1	

1/ Dates are for 1956; comparable weeks for 1955. 2/ Obtained from unrounded figures. 3/ Less than 0.5 million pounds.

Table 3 .- Factors in monthly supply of shell eggs, 1954 to date

Item	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases	1,000 cases
						1954							
Eggs produced on farms	14,150	13,889	16,450	15,603	15,147	13,133	12,083	11,589	11,656	12,725	13,078	14,200	163,703
Shell eggs to storage	-16	60	309	286	620	291	-204	-404	-198	-197	-311	-132	104
Eggs broken commercially	779	1,241	2,415	2,212	1,883	1,465	643	320	253	296	224	371	12,102
Eggs used for hatching	750	1,213	1,297	937	550	470	393	383	340	340	343	450	7,466
Balance	12,637	11,375	12,429	12,168	12,094	10,907	11,251	11,290	11,261	12,286	12,822	13,511	144,031
						1955							
Eggs produced on farms	14,539	13,603	15,931	15,689	15,497	13,753	12,825	11,931	11,792	12,864	12,992	13,822	165,238
Shell eggs to storage	42	23	221	704	905	204	-48	-564	-540	-336	-471	-222	-82
Eggs broken commercially	798	1,025	1,762	2,078	2,200	1,874	941	431	236	188	136	109	11,778
Eggs used for hatching	640	997	1,147	937	607	527	437	397	430	437	473	587	7,616
Balance	13,059	11,558	12,801	11,970	11,785	11,148	11,495	11,667	11,666	12,575	12,854	13,348	145,926
						1956							
Eggs produced on farms	14,336	14,261	16,028	15,531	15,436	13,781							
Shell eggs to storage	188	7	3	329	555								
Eggs broken commercially	214	853	1,631	2,015	2,446								
Eggs used for hatching	773	1,110	1,227	1,043	(670)								
Balance	13,161	12,291	13,167	12,144	(11,765)								

Table 4.- Shell eggs: Adjusted supply, average receipts in 4 markets, and mid-month price received by farmers, monthly, January 1954 to date

Month	1954			1955			1956		
	Adjusted supply 1/	Average weekly receipts in 4 cities	Mid-month price to farmers, per dozen	Adjusted supply 1/	Average weekly receipts in 4 cities	Mid-month price to farmers, per dozen	Adjusted supply 1/	Average weekly receipts in 4 cities	Mid-month price to farmers, per dozen
	Mil. cases	1,000 cases	Ct.	Mil. cases	1,000 cases	Ct.	Mil. cases	1,000 cases	Ct.
Jan.	14.2	221	46.3	14.5	234	32.2	14.3	264	46.6
Feb.	13.9	220	45.7	13.6	207	39.5	14.3	229	40.2
Mar.	16.4	249	38.7	15.9	246	39.7	16.0	242	39.6
Apr.	15.6	254	35.0	15.7	310	35.9	15.5	266	38.5
May	15.1	283	33.1	15.5	319	33.8	15.4	268	37.5
June	13.1	248	33.0	13.8	221	33.8		249	36.3
July	12.1	186	34.5	12.8	199	35.2			
Aug.	11.6	179	37.4	11.9	172	39.4			
Sept.	11.7	190	33.8	11.8	182	43.8			
Oct.	12.7	191	32.4	12.9	193	42.9			
Nov.	13.1	192	33.9	13.0	196	43.4			
Dec.	14.2	226	32.7	13.8	202	47.1			

1/ "Balances" from table 3.

Table 5.- Chickens: January-August changes in numbers of layers, 1950 to date, with comparisons

Year	Unit	Jan. 1 hens and pullets on farms	Layers on farms first of month							
			Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.
			(a) As reported							
1950	Mil.	423.8	391.6	381.8	370.4	355.1	334.2	314.8	299.0	288.2
1951	Mil.	399.3	369.9	362.6	354.1	336.8	320.4	302.6	289.0	276.9
1952	Mil.	397.2	367.2	360.4	349.5	332.7	314.2	297.3	280.3	270.5
1953	Mil.	373.0	350.4	340.7	330.4	317.7	304.1	288.6	276.6	269.5
1954	Mil.	371.0	347.1	339.2	328.5	316.2	301.4	289.1	276.6	274.5
1955	Mil.	368.6	344.1	332.2	324.8	312.4	300.1	287.1	278.3	274.1
1956	Mil.	359.7	332.4	328.7	318.8	308.9	299.3	288.4	280.2	
			(b) As a percentage of previous year							
1950	Pct.	106	106	105	105	106	105	104	103	104
1951	Pct.	94	94	95	96	95	96	96	97	96
1952	Pct.	99	99	99	99	99	98	98	97	98
1953	Pct.	94	95	95	95	95	97	97	99	100
1954	Pct.	99	99	100	99	100	94	100	100	102
1955	Pct.	99	99	98	99	99	100	99	101	100
1956	Pct.	98	97	99	98	99	100	100	101	
			(c) As a percentage of January 1 hens and pullets							
1950	Pct.	100	92	90	87	84	79	74	71	68
1951	Pct.	100	93	91	89	84	80	76	72	69
1952	Pct.	100	92	91	88	84	79	75	71	68
1953	Pct.	100	94	91	89	85	82	77	74	72
1954	Pct.	100	94	91	89	85	81	78	75	74
1955	Pct.	100	93	90	88	85	81	78	76	74
1956	Pct.	100	92	91	89	86	83	80	78	

Table 6.- Disappearance of layers since January 1956, by regions, with comparisons to 1955

Region	1955					1956				
	Potential layers on farms Jan. 1	Layers on farms first of month as a percentage of Jan. 1 potential layers				Potential layers on farms Jan. 1	Layers on farms first of month as a percentage of Jan. 1 potential layers			
		Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	July 1		Apr. 1	May 1	June 1	July 1
	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
N. Atlantic	64	83	81	78	78	64	83	81	80	80
E. N. Central	69	87	83	80	75	68	89	87	82	77
W. N. Central	101	87	85	79	76	96	87	82	79	72
S. Atlantic	38	79	77	73	71	37	83	82	79	75
S. Central	55	81	76	73	71	53	85	83	80	75
Western	41	86	83	81	80	41	85	84	83	82
United States	369	85	81	78	75	360	86	83	80	76

Table 7.- Commercial slaughter of hens: weekly rates, January 1956 to date, as a percentage of previous year 1/

Item	Unit	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June
Total weight of hens (and cocks)	Pct.	78	117	130	89	132	131
slaughtered in successive weeks	Pct.	70	122	135	111	118	130
during the month, as a per-	Pct.	74	139	114	123	114	134
centage of corresponding	Pct.	80	120	150	132	122	165
week in previous year]	Pct.			114			

1/ These data are taken from USDA's weekly "Commercial Poultry Slaughter Report."

Table 8.- Indications of laying flock replacement, 1956 compared to 1955 and 1954

Item	Unit	1954	1955	1956	Change: 1956 from 1955
					Pct.
Chickens raised	Mil.	540	462		
Pullets on farms January 1 following	Mil.	257	238		
Sexed pullets as a percentage of farmers' chick purchases	Pct.	43	42	1/43	2
Chicks and young chickens on farms first of month					
April 1	Mil.	229.8	169.9	177.9	5
May 1	Mil.	345.8	273.8	279.8	2
June 1	Mil.	409.4	329.3	333.1	1
July 1	Mil.	475.9	2/	2/	
Hatchery output of replacement chicks					
January	Mil.	---	32.9	40.7	24
February	Mil.	---	71.2	86.0	21
March	Mil.	3/203.9	148.8	153.8	3
April	Mil.	3/202.3	163.9	165.3	1
May	Mil.	3/124.0	107.9	113.1	5
June	Mil.	3/ 35.2	32.7		

1/ Intentions.
2/ July 1 estimates for this series has been discontinued.
3/ Derived.

Table 9.- Layers on farms, chicks and young chickens on farms, and cumulative hatchery output of replacement-type chicks, by regions, June 1, 1955 and 1956

Year	Unit	North Atlantic: New England	North Atlantic: Mid-Atlantic	East North Central	West North Central	South Atlantic	South Central: East	South Central: West	Western: Mountain	Western: Pacific	United States
					(a) Layers on farms						
1955	Mil.	50.1		55.3	79.8	27.9	40.5		33.4		287
1956	Mil.	51.1		56.1	75.8	29.1	42.1		34.2		288
	Pct. change	2.1		1.4	-5.0	4.2	3.8		2.2		0.4
					(b) Chicks and young chickens on farms						
1955	Mil.	53.5		68.5	100.6	33.0	46.0		27.7		329
1956	Mil.	50.2		71.3	101.3	32.8	49.4		28.1		333
	Pct. change	-6.0		4.0	0.7	-0.8	7.4		1.2		1.1
					(c) Hatchery output of replacement-type chicks, January-May inclusive						
1955	Mil.	29.5	65.8	128.0	184.2	29.3	14.7	28.1	10.1	35.1	525
1956	Mil.	31.4	67.9	130.6	202.3	32.1	15.9	33.4	9.5	35.8	559
	Pct. change	6.6	3.2	2.0	10.0	9.6	8.2	18.9	-0.6	2.1	6.5

Table 10.- Broilers: Average placements, United States and selected States, October 1954 to date

Period 1/	United States total monthly hatchings of broiler chicks: 1954-1955	1955-1956	Average weekly rate of placements: 22 States 1954-1955	22 States 1955-1956	Del-Mar-Va 1954-1955	Del-Mar-Va 1955-1956	Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi 1954-1955	Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi 1955-1956	Arkansas, 2/ Texas 1954-1955	Arkansas, 2/ Texas 1955-1956	California 1954-1955	California 1955-1956
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Oct.	---	93.4	3/14.0	18.5	1.9	2.6	4.4	5.4	2.7	3.2	0.9	0.9
Nov.	---	95.9	15.4	19.4	2.2	2.6	4.2	5.5	2.6	3.5	.9	.9
Dec.	---	102.7	14.0	20.5	2.0	2.8	4.1	6.0	2.3	3.6	.8	1.0
Jan.	81.2	109.2	16.0	21.4	2.5	3.0	4.7	6.4	2.5	3.4	.9	1.1
Feb.	92.1	112.2	20.1	23.5	3.4	3.2	5.4	7.0	3.0	3.8	1.0	1.2
Mar.	105.4	129.9	20.4	25.1	3.1	3.6	5.7	8.5	3.3	4.0	1.1	1.2
Apr.	109.7	132.5	22.1	26.6	3.2	3.7	6.3	9.0	3.7	4.5	1.2	1.3
May	115.9	140.7	22.6	27.0	3.3	3.7	6.4	8.3	3.7	4.5	1.2	1.2
June 2	( )		22.7	27.7	3.4	3.7	6.6	8.6	3.7	4.7	1.1	1.1
9	( )		22.8	27.5	3.3	3.6	6.5	8.5	3.9	4.6	1.2	1.2
16	(111.8)		23.3	27.7	3.5	3.6	6.6	8.6	3.9	4.8	1.2	1.2
23	( )		22.6	27.3	3.3	3.6	6.6	8.4	3.8	4.7	1.1	1.1
30	( )		22.7	27.2	3.5	3.6	6.5	8.4	3.8	4.7	1.1	1.1
July 7	( )		22.1	25.7	3.1	3.4	6.4	8.1	3.8	4.7	1.0	1.0
14	(111.0)		22.4		3.1		6.4		3.8		1.0	
21	( )		22.1		3.1		6.5		3.7		1.0	
28	( )		21.7		3.0		6.2		3.6		1.1	
Aug.	98.8		19.4		2.6		5.7		3.1		1.3	
Sept.	86.9		17.7		2.4		5.3		2.9		.9	
Total 4/			981.3		139.8		282.2		151.4		52.2	

1/ Weekly average for indicated month, or weekly total for week ending on indicated day. 2/ For weeks January 2 to July 10, 1954 includes only N. W. Arkansas; thereafter, entire State. 3/ Partly estimated. 4/ Total, 52 weeks.

Table 11.- Broilers: Quarterly placements by reporting States, October, 1954, to date

State	Quarters						
	1954	1955				1956	
	IV 1/	I	II	III	IV	I	II
Maine	7,230	7,756	9,001	9,327	9,438	10,058	11,478
Connecticut	5,275	6,668	7,416	6,404	7,141	7,570	9,015
Pennsylvania	5,557	8,064	9,114	7,791	8,515	9,702	10,824
Indiana	6,843	8,607	10,087	8,841	9,203	9,891	11,462
Illinois	1,817	2,219	2,685	2,358	2,132	2,397	2,562
Missouri	4,931	6,643	8,562	6,938	6,373	8,142	10,160
Delaware	12,857	20,207	22,935	17,979	18,144	21,761	25,853
Maryland	11,987	16,896	17,607	15,236	14,834	18,378	20,016
Virginia	9,881	15,452	17,560	14,885	13,728	17,352	18,614
West Virginia	3,727	6,130	7,092	6,198	5,687	7,007	7,493
North Carolina	11,329	14,702	18,969	17,866	17,140	20,055	22,354
South Carolina	2,137	2,621	3,257	2,388	2,890	3,359	4,081
Georgia	34,924	44,136	54,643	49,146	45,944	56,777	66,834
Florida	2,100	2,391	2,687	2,532	2,492	3,418	3,454
Alabama	17,807	14,460	17,643	15,637	16,055	20,844	24,323
Mississippi	8,238	9,926	11,614	10,008	10,693	13,390	16,295
Arkansas	16,001	18,902	25,286	20,650	21,592	24,084	30,464
Louisiana	2,389	2,883	3,577	3,153	3,671	3,818	4,833
Texas	16,384	19,515	23,420	21,176	22,739	24,432	29,062
Washington	1,997	2,734	3,086	2,476	2,110	3,162	3,673
Oregon	1,131	1,682	1,959	1,697	1,458	2,204	2,744
California	11,260	11,995	15,045	12,876	12,126	15,320	15,507
22 States	189,802	244,589	293,245	255,562	254,105	303,121	351,101

1/ Partly estimated.

Table 12.- Turkeys: Hatchings in 5 leading States and in United States, January-May inclusive, 1955 and 1956

State	Total number of turkeys raised, 1955	Hatchings of poults in commercial hatcheries, Jan.-May								
		Heavy breeds			Light breeds			All turkeys		
		1955	1956	Percentage change	1955	1956	Percentage change	1955	1956	Percentage change
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.	Mil.	Mil.	Pct.
California	10.2	8.1	9.9	21	0.5	0.5	-11	8.7	10.4	19
Minnesota	8.0	5.0	7.2	45	1.2	.6	-47	6.2	7.9	26
Virginia	5.5	1.5	2.1	46	2.4	2.7	13	3.8	4.8	26
Iowa	4.5	3.8	4.5	18	.7	.9	23	3.9	4.6	18
Texas	3.0	2.2	3.4	53	.4	.2	-29	2.6	3.7	42
United States	65.6	39.4	50.4	28	7.7	6.5	-16	47.1	56.9	21

Table 13.- Turkey hatchings and egg settings contributing to 1956 turkeys raised, and comparable 1955 data

Month	1955-crop hatchings	1956-crop			
		Hatchings	Estimate of hatchings 1/	Percentage increase	
				For the month	Cumulative
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Pct.	Pct.
			(a) Heavy breeds		
Sept.	25	139		456	---
Oct.	61	189		210	281
Nov.	179	438		145	189
Dec.	539	1,029		91	123
Jan.	1,234	1,888		53	81
Feb.	2,744	4,800		75	77
Mar.	7,846	11,083		41	55
Apr.	12,825	15,748		23	39
May	14,763	16,878		14	30
June	8,975		11,400	27	29
July	2,057		3,700	80	31
Aug.	326				
			(b) Light breeds		
Sept.	690	416		-40	---
Oct.	675	304		-55	-47
Nov.	1,041	511		-51	-49
Dec.	1,655	913		-45	-47
Jan.	1,356	886		-35	-44
Feb.	1,104	797		-28	-41
Mar.	1,085	972		-10	-37
Apr.	1,750	1,521		-13	-32
May	2,433	2,302		-5	-27
June	2,580		2,200	-14	-25
July	2,220		2,400	9	-20
Aug.	1,193				
			(c) Total turkeys		
Sept.	715	555		-22	---
Oct.	736	493		-33	-28
Nov.	1,220	949		-22	-25
Dec.	2,194	1,942		-11	-19
Jan.	2,590	2,774		7	-10
Feb.	3,848	5,597		45	9
Mar.	8,931	12,055		35	20
Apr.	14,575	17,269		18	20
May	17,196	19,180		12	17
June	11,555		13,600	18	17
July	4,277		6,100	43	19
Aug.	1,519				

1/ On basis of percentage change from previous year shown for eggs in incubators, see text.

Table 14.- Turkey prices, per pound: Selected series, June 1952 to date

Season	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
					(a) Average farm price, mid-month (live), United States							
1952-53	32.3	31.9	32.6	33.2	32.9	33.7	34.6	33.6	33.3	33.6	33.3	32.5
1953-54	31.7	32.3	32.7	32.4	33.3	33.9	34.4	33.2	33.9	33.6	33.3	31.0
1954-55	31.3	28.6	27.8	27.6	27.0	28.5	29.6	27.4	29.5	30.4	29.7	28.9
1955-56	29.4	29.6	29.5	31.0	31.2	29.8	30.5	31.0	31.4	32.1	30.9	30.8
1956-57	29.8											
					(b) Live, heavy type young toms, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/							
1952-53	25-27	---	27	30½-32	28-29	29-30	29½-30	28½-29½	---	---	---	29
1953-54	---	---	29½-31	29-29½	28-29	28-29	28-29	29-30	---	---	---	---
1954-55	25-26	24-25	24-25	24	22-22½	23-24	23-24	21½-23	---	---	---	---
1955-56	25-26	28	27	27-29½	29-30	26½-27	26½-27	---	---	---	---	---
1956-57	30-33	28										
					(c) Live, heavy type hens, San Joaquin Valley, California, first day of month 1/							
1952-53	27-28	---	28	32	32-32½	33	33½-34	---	---	---	---	29
1953-54	---	---	32	32	33	35-35½	36½-37½	---	---	---	---	---
1954-55	26	28	28	28	28	31-32	31½-32	---	---	---	---	---
1955-56	25-26	30	29	30½-31	34½-35	33	31½-32½	---	---	---	---	---
1956-57	31	27-28										
					(d) Frozen eviscerated toms, heaviest weights quoted, New York City, first day of month 1/							
1952-53	60-63	57-60	57-59	61-64	58-60	54-58	53-57	53-55	55-56½	53-55	52-55	56-58½
1953-54	56-60	55-59	56-59	55-57	55-59	53-56	51½-54	51-54	51-54	51½-54½	49½-53½	49-53½
1954-55	50-52	46½-49	47-49	47-49	46½-49	44-48	43½-46	43-45	44-48	42½-48	46-49	47½-50½
1955-56	48½-52½	49½-53	51-54	55½-57	50½-54	48-50	47½-48½	53-54	54-55	54-55	57½-58	61½-62
1956-57	64-65	65-65½										
					(e) Frozen eviscerated hens, 12-14 pounds, New York City, first day of month 1/							
1952-53	59-62	56-59	55-57	57-59	57-59	56-59	56-58	56-59	56-58	54-57	54½-57	62-64
1953-54	61-64	59-61	56-59	55-57	56-57	58-60	59-60½	60-61½	60-61½	60-61½	59½-61½	---
1954-55	---	51-53	45½-48	48-49½	47-49	49½-51	51-53	48-51	48-51	48-50	48-50	51½-53½
1955-56	51½-53½	50-52	48-49½	49½-51	51-52½	52-54	50½-52	50-51	50-51	49½-51	50-51½	53½-54
1956-57	52½-53½	47-48½										
					(f) Live, Beltsville Small Whites, Shenandoah Valley, Virginia and West Virginia, first day of month 1/							
1952-53	35	30	30	35	36-37	37-38	37-38	42	40½	42-43	42-43	38
1953-54	35	33	32-33	33	33-33½	36½	37½	37	35	37	33	30
1954-55	30-31	27-29½	26-26½	27½-28	29	31-32	32	28	30	30	30	31
1955-56	31	30½-31	30-30½	30-30½	30½-31	30-31½	28-28½	29½	---	33	30-31	29-30
1956-57	29	26½-27										
					(g) Ice-packed New York dressed, Beltsville Small Whites, New York City, first day of month 1/							
1952-53	43-44	41-41½	39-39½	45-46	47½-48	47½-48	49-50	53½-54	52½-53	55½-56	51-52	48-49
1953-54	43-44½	43-44	41½-42	42½-43	41½-42	44-45	46½-47	47-48	44½-45	44½-45	42½-43	38½-39
1954-55	36-37	36½-37	33½-34	35¾-36	36¾-37	38½-39	39-40	37-38	36½-37	39½-40	39-40	38-38½
1955-56	38½-39	39½-40	37-38	38-38½	38½-39	38-39	38½-39	38-39	39-40	41½-42	40-41	36-37
1956-57	33¾-34	33-35										
					(h) Live, heavy type toms, Iowa, first Friday of month 1/							
1953-54	---	---	---	30	30-30½	29-31½	30-31	---	---	---	---	---
1954-55	---	---	24½	26	24-24½	23-24	25-25½	20-23	---	23½	---	20-22
1955-56	---	---	27	29-31	30	26-27	28-28½	---	---	---	---	28-30½
1956-57	28-30	28										
					(i) Live, heavy type hens, Iowa, first Friday of month 1/							
1953-54	---	---	34½-35½	33-34	34½-35½	38-38½	39-40	---	---	---	---	---
1954-55	---	---	28	30¼-30½	29-30	32½-33	35-35½	---	27½	---	---	---
1955-56	---	32-33	30½-31½	34	37	33	32-34	---	---	---	---	28-28½
1956-57	27½-28	28										

1/ Or next date when quotation is available.

Table 15.- Poultry: Per capita consumption of farm chickens, broilers, and turkeys, 1930 to date

(including data for cover chart)

Year	Per capita consumption				
	Farm and non-farm chickens	Broilers	Total chickens	Turkeys	Total poultry
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1930	15.4	---	15.4	1.5	16.9
1931	13.9	---	13.9	1.4	15.3
1932	14.2	---	14.2	1.7	15.9
1933	14.5	---	14.5	1.9	16.4
1934	12.8	0.5	13.3	1.8	15.1
1935	12.3	.6	12.9	1.7	14.6
1936	12.7	.8	13.5	2.2	15.7
1937	12.3	1.1	13.4	2.2	15.6
1938	11.3	1.2	12.5	2.2	14.7
1939	12.4	1.5	13.9	2.4	16.3
1940	12.0	1.9	13.9	2.9	16.8
1941	12.5	2.7	15.2	2.9	18.1
1942	14.3	3.1	17.4	3.0	20.4
1943	18.6	4.1	22.7	2.7	25.4
1944	16.3	3.8	20.1	2.7	22.8
1945	16.4	4.9	21.3	3.4	24.7
1946	15.1	4.0	19.1	3.7	22.8
1947	13.6	4.3	17.9	3.5	21.4
1948	12.7	5.4	18.1	3.0	21.1
1949	12.4	7.0	19.4	3.2	22.6
1950 1/	11.8	8.5	20.3	4.0	24.3
1951 1/	11.1	10.3	21.4	4.4	25.8
1952 1/	10.3	11.5	21.8	4.6	26.4
1953 1/	9.5	12.1	21.6	4.7	26.3
1954 1/	9.0	13.5	22.5	5.2	27.7
1955 1/	7.5	13.4	20.9	5.0	25.9
1956 2/	7.5	16.0	23.5	5.4	28.9

1/ Revised. 2/ Estimated.

The above table summarizes the per capita disappearances of poultry meat for the years covered by the recent revisions of the production data, and compares those disappearances with disappearances for preceding years.

Table 16.- Eggs: Average per capita disappearance, shell, processed, and total 1945 to date

Year	Disappearance		
	Shell	Processed	Total
	Eggs	Eggs	Eggs
1945	374	23	397
1946	354	20	374
1947	353	25	378
1948	356	28	384
1949	353	25	378
1950	359	25	384
1951	360	27	387
1952	357	28	385
1953	349	25	374
1954	346	25	371
1955	342	24	366
1956 1/			365

1/ Estimated.

Table 17.- Chickens: Breed and variety distribution of hatchery supply flocks enrolled in the National Poultry Improvement Plan, United States, 1941-42 to 1954-55; by regions, 1954-55

Year	States reporting	Total birds in plan		Percentage distribution by breed and variety 1/						
		Number	Total	New Hampshire	White Leghorn	White Rock	Barred Rock	Rhode Island Red	Cross-mated	Others 2/
	No.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.
1941-42	33	10.7	100	21.2	24.1	15.6	16.2	12.5	2.0	8.3
1942-43	40	15.8	100	19.2	26.6	18.3	15.7	8.9	3.0	8.3
1943-44	42	20.3	100	19.4	25.9	19.7	13.9	8.3	5.5	7.3
1944-45	39	17.6	100	20.6	25.8	17.5	12.4	8.0	9.8	6.0
1945-46	32	20.3	100	23.8	23.1	17.0	11.4	7.7	11.3	5.7
1946-47	38	24.5	100	23.4	25.4	17.4	10.0	6.5	11.1	6.2
1947-48	42	25.1	100	25.9	24.7	15.2	10.2	6.8	12.4	4.8
1948-49	44	26.5	100	31.9	25.7	13.2	7.8	5.6	11.9	3.9
1949-50	47	36.2	100	38.8	21.9	10.4	6.2	4.3	15.1	3.2
1950-51	47	33.8	100	38.9	21.6	10.1	5.8	4.1	16.4	3.1
1951-52	47	37.6	100	41.4	18.9	11.9	4.0	3.3	14.3	6.2
1952-53	47	33.8	100	36.2	20.1	14.8	3.5	3.2	16.0	6.2
1953-54	47	36.0	100	25.4	18.9	23.1	2.2	2.7	19.7	8.0
1954-55	47	37.1	100	16.0	19.2	29.5	1.3	2.7	21.2	10.1
1954-55 by regions										
North Atlantic	9	7.7	100	13.6	21.5	28.2	3.1	4.2	21.3	8.1
East North Central	5	8.0	100	11.5	25.4	36.6	2.0	1.7	9.3	13.5
West North Central	7	8.2	100	9.9	25.6	14.7	.5	1.9	29.2	18.2
South Atlantic	8	7.1	100	22.9	4.4	44.8	.3	3.2	21.8	2.6
South Central	8	3.8	100	25.7	9.5	33.9	1.0	1.4	22.3	6.2
Western	10	2.2	100	23.9	29.2	6.6	.2	4.1	30.0	6.0

1/ Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. 2/ Includes in-crossmated.

Table 18.- Turkeys: Breed and variety distribution of hatchery supply flocks enrolled in the National Turkey Improvement Plan, United States, 1943-44 to 1954-55; by regions, 1954-55

Year	States reporting	Total birds in Plan		Percentage distribution by breed and variety 1/						January 1 breeders estimated by Crop Reporting Board (48 States)
		Number	Total	Bronze		White Holland	Beltsville Small White	All others 2/		
				Broad-breasted	Standard					
	No.	Mil.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.	Pct.		Mil.
1943-44	8	0.1	100	72	15	7	2	5		4.2
1944-45	24	.7	100	82	14	3	3/	2		4.5
1945-46	30	2.3	100	92	5	2	1	1		4.8
1946-47	39	1.9	100	89	4	5	2	1		3.8
1947-48	39	1.1	100	72	15	5	6	1		2.5
1948-49	41	1.8	100	77	15	4	4	1		3.1
1949-50	44	2.1	100	76	14	4	6	1		3.3
1950-51	44	2.3	100	77	2	4	16	1		3.2
1951-52	44	3.1	100	75	3/	4	19	2		3.7
1952-53	42	2.6	100	76	3/	4	17	2		3.2
1953-54	42	2.8	100	67	1	4	23	6		3.1
1954-55	42	2.8	100	66	1	2	18	12		3.0
1954-55 by regions										
North Atlantic	9	0.1	100	28	3	37	7	24		0.2
East North Central	5	.3	100	53	2	2	17	26		.3
West North Central	7	.6	100	61	---	1	19	19		.6
South Atlantic	8	.4	100	44	3/	1	50	5		.4
South Central	7	.3	100	67	---	1	18	14		.5
Western	6	1.0	100	87	3/	3/	7	5		1.0

1/ Totals may not add to 100 due to rounding. 2/ Including Jersey Buff, Bourbon Red, Black Narragansett, Nebraskan, Crosses, and others. 3/ Less than 0.5 percent.

Table 19.- Conversion factors used in computing distribution of eggs and poultry meat, 1909 to date

(a) Estimated non-farm (back-yard) production, as a percentage of farm production 1/

Year	Eggs	Farm chickens	Broilers	Turkeys
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1909-54	10	10	0	0
1955	9	9		
1956	8	8		
1957	7	7		
1958	6	6		
1959	5	5		

(b) Factors for equating, live, dressed, and ready-to-cook weights of poultry

	Shrinkage from -					
	Live to -				New York dressed to ready-to-cook	
	New York dressed 2/		Ready-to-cook 3/			
	Chickens	Turkeys	Chickens	Turkeys	Chickens	Turkeys
	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
1909-28	12	---	32.00	25	25	---
1929-46	12	9	32.00	25	25	17.6
1947	12	9	31.52	25	25	17.6
1948	12	9	31.40	25	25	17.6
1949	12	9	31.28	25	25	17.6
1950	12	9	31.16	25	25	17.6
1951	11	9	31.04	25	25	17.6
1952	11	9	30.94	25	25	17.6
1953	11	9	30.88	25	25	17.6
1954	11	9	30.80	25	25	17.6
1955	11	9	4/30.72	25	25	17.6
1956	11	9	4/30.64	25	25	17.6

(c) Weights and yields of eggs

	Shell eggs, average weight		Average yield per case of breaking stock					
			Liquid or frozen			Dried		
	Per dozen	Per case	Mixed whole egg:	Albumen	Yolk	Mixed whole egg:	Albumen	Yolk
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
1909-15	1.50	45.0	35.0					
1916-20	1.50	45.0	35.5					
1921-25	1.50	45.0	36.0					
1926-30	1.50	45.0	36.5					
1931-33	1.50	45.0	37.0					
1934-36	1.50	45.0	37.5					
1937-46	1.50	45.0	37.5					
1947	1.51	45.3	37.5					
1948	1.52	45.6	37.5					
1949	1.53	45.9	37.5					
1950	1.54	46.2	37.5					
1951	1.55	46.5	38.5	21.3	17.2	10.2	7.5	3.1
1952 to date	1.56	46.8	38.5	21.3	17.2	10.2	7.5	3.1

1/ Allowances for non-farm production are necessary for computing average per capita consumption. At the rate of 1 percentage point per year, the USDA computations on this point are moving toward the 5-percent level suggested in Statistical Bulletin 183. The adjustment to that level is being made gradually in order to permit reasonable year-to-year comparability in the per capita figures.

2/ Blood and feathers removed.

3/ Excluding head, feet, and inedible viscera.

4/ Preliminary.

Table 20.- Eggs: Production, annual rate per hen and pullet, and disposition, United States, 1945 to date

Year	Hens and pullets on farms Jan. 1	Eggs produced			Eggs consumed on farms where produced	Eggs sold	Average annual price, per dozen	Value of eggs sold and consumed
		Total	Per layer on hand during year	Per hen and pullet on farms Jan. 1				
	Thou.	Mil.	No.	No.	Mil.	Mil.	Ct.	Thou. dol.
1945	473,880	56,221	152	119	7,502	48,365	37.7	1,751,381
1946	472,820	55,962	156	118	7,551	48,148	37.6	1,743,016
1947	431,446	55,384	160	128	7,133	48,029	45.3	2,077,719
1948	417,570	54,899	166	131	6,800	47,903	47.2	2,145,041
1949	399,380	56,154	170	141	6,685	49,282	45.2	2,102,955
1950 1/	423,773	58,954	174	139	6,604	52,188	36.3	1,772,571
1951 1/	399,338	58,063	177	145	6,066	51,857	47.7	2,297,753
1952 1/	397,234	58,068	181	146	5,939	52,009	41.6	2,001,763
1953 1/	373,013	57,891	185	155	5,578	52,209	47.7	2,289,079
1954 1/	370,970	58,933	188	159	5,530	53,316	36.6	1,795,348
1955 2/	368,595	59,485	192	161	5,534	53,876	38.9	1,921,737
1956	359,696							

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

Table 21.- Commercial broilers: Production, average live weight, price per pound, and value of production, 1945 to date

Year	Production		Average live weight, per bird	Average price received by producers, per pound, live weight	Value of production
	Number	Pounds (live)			
	Mil.	Mil.	Lb.	Ct.	Mil. dol.
1945	366	1,107	3.0	29.5	327
1946	293	884	3.0	32.7	289
1947	310	936	3.0	32.3	302
1948	371	1,127	3.0	36.0	405
1949	513	1,570	3.1	28.2	443
1950 1/	631	1,945	3.1	27.4	533
1951 1/	789	2,415	3.1	28.5	689
1952 1/	861	2,624	3.0	28.8	756
1953 1/	947	2,904	3.1	27.1	786
1954 1/	1,048	3,236	3.1	23.1	747
1955 2/	1,078	3,309	3.1	25.2	834

1/ Revised.
2/ Preliminary.

Tables 15 and 16 show the average per capita consumptions of eggs and poultry meat in recent years. The tables on this and the following pages show the production data on which the consumption estimates are based. Most of the 1950-53 entries in this and the following tables have not previously been published in The Poultry and Egg Situation in their present revised form.

Table 22.- Farm chickens: Average live weight sold, sales, farm consumption, and value, 1945 to date

Year	Average live weight per bird sold			Total sold, live weight	Total consumed on farms where produced, live weight	Slaughter, live weight, from farm production 1/	Weighted annual average price received, per pound	Value of--	
	Young	Mature	All					Sales from farms	Sales plus home consumption
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Ct.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
1945	3.7	5.2	4.3	2,616	669	3,285	25.9	677	852
1946	3.7	5.2	4.4	2,318	638	2,956	27.6	639	814
1947	3.7	5.2	4.4	2,144	598	2,742	26.5	568	727
1948	3.7	5.3	4.5	1,804	568	2,372	30.1	543	711
1949	3.8	5.3	4.4	1,954	575	2,529	25.4	497	643
1950 2/	3.8	5.3	4.5	1,859	565	2,424	22.2	413	538
1951 2/	3.8	5.3	4.5	1,791	538	2,330	25.0	447	580
1952 2/	3.8	5.2	4.5	1,637	510	2,147	22.1	362	473
1953 2/	4.0	5.4	4.7	1,582	470	2,052	22.1	350	452
1954 2/	3.8	5.2	4.5	1,508	467	1,975	16.8	253	333
1955 3/	3.8	5.2	4.6	1,230	442	1,672	18.6	229	310

1/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced. 2/ Revised.
3/ Preliminary.

Table 23.- Chickens (excluding commercial broilers): Number on farms January 1, number raised, sold, consumed on farms where produced, and slaughtered, 1945 to date

Year	On farms January 1					Raised	Sold	Consumed on farms where produced	Slaughter from farm production 1/
	Hens	Pullets		Other	Total				
		Of laying age	Not yet of laying age						
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
1945	172,426	254,498	46,956	42,617	516,497	890,443	609,271	183,101	792,372
1946	150,712	269,303	52,805	50,407	523,227	737,632	529,437	173,063	702,500
1947	150,490	243,931	37,025	35,771	467,217	719,418	491,451	161,851	653,302
1948	139,587	242,785	35,198	32,074	449,644	615,076	401,613	153,262	554,875
1949	141,044	227,145	31,191	31,496	430,876	705,099	440,944	156,216	597,160
1950 2/	137,014	254,557	32,202	32,776	456,549	619,803	408,736	152,091	560,827
1951 2/	141,178	228,748	29,412	31,650	430,988	622,942	397,942	146,040	543,982
1952 2/	135,814	231,414	30,006	29,321	426,555	560,983	363,492	138,286	501,778
1953 2/	135,411	215,004	22,598	25,145	398,158	547,524	336,624	128,649	465,273
1954 2/	115,840	231,304	23,826	25,806	396,776	539,908	331,577	129,339	460,916
1955 2/	111,376	232,681	24,538	22,113	390,708	461,868	264,574	121,366	385,940
1956 3/	121,527	210,873	27,296	22,522	382,218				

1/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced. The difference between raised and slaughtered is accounted for by (a) difference in January 1 inventories and (b) death losses. 2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary.

Table 24.- Turkeys: Average live weight, sales, farm consumption, and value, available data, 1945 to date

Year	Average live weight per turkey sold: Hens	Toms	Fryers	All	Total sold, live weight	Total consumed on farms where produced, live weight	Total slaughter, live weight	Weighted annual average price received per pound	Value of: Sales	Sales plus home consumption
	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Mil. lb.	Ct.	Mil. dol.	Mil. dol.
1945	13.5	21.4		17.4	715	12	727	33.7	241	245
1946	13.9	22.2		18.0	740	12	752	36.3	269	273
1947	13.8	22.5		18.1	634	12	646	36.5	232	236
1948	14.0	22.6		18.3	549	11	561	46.8	257	263
1949	14.2	23.3		18.8	748	12	760	35.2	263	267
1950 1/	14.1	23.0		18.6	808	11	820	32.9	266	270
1951 1/	13.6	22.2		17.9	927	11	938	37.5	347	351
1952 1/	14.3	23.7	7.6	16.9	1,049	11	1,060	33.6	352	356
1953 1/	14.4	24.3	8.0	16.9	999	11	1,011	33.7	336	340
1954 1/	14.4	24.1	8.2	17.2	1,149	12	1,161	28.8	331	334
1955 2/	14.4	24.5	8.3	16.7	1,080	11	1,091	30.2	326	329

1/ Revised. 2/ Preliminary.

Table 25.- Turkeys: Numbers on farms January 1, numbers raised, sold, consumed on farms where produced, and total slaughter, 1945 to date

Year	Numbers on farms January 1: Breeders	Others	Raised	Sold	Consumed on farms where produced	Total slaughter 1/
	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.	Thou.
			(a) All turkeys			
1945	4,505	2,577	42,900	40,999	691	41,690
1946	4,841	3,021	40,142	41,030	699	41,729
1947	3,779	2,100	33,975	34,938	675	35,613
1948	2,537	1,428	31,541	30,017	666	30,683
1949	3,148	1,474	41,266	39,841	676	40,517
1950 2/	3,270	1,854	44,393	43,580	641	44,221
1951 2/	3,201	1,836	53,298	51,738	629	52,367
1952 2/	3,694	2,031	62,327	62,068	688	62,756
1953 2/	3,162	1,924	59,822	59,074	682	59,756
1954	3,095	1,861	67,693	66,867	679	67,546
1955 3/	3,012	1,905	65,570	64,754	653	65,407
1956 3/	3,212	1,680				
			(b) Beltsville Small Whites and other light breeds			
1950 2/			5,327			
1951 2/			11,193			
1952 2/			18,075			
1953 2/	470	200	16,440			
1954	657	237	19,154			
1955 3/	533	292	16,784			
1956 3/	493	279				
			(c) Large-breed turkeys			
1950 2/			39,066			
1951 2/			42,105			
1952 2/			44,252			
1953 2/			43,382			
1954	2,692	1,724	48,539			
1955 3/	2,479	1,613	48,786			
1956 3/	2,719	1,401				

1/ Slaughter is the sum of sales and consumption on farms where produced. The difference between raised and slaughtered is accounted for by (a) difference in January 1 inventories, and (b) death losses.
2/ Revised. 3/ Preliminary.

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